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Application No. 10/712,266
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REMARKS

Claims 1-70 have been canceled and claims 71-146 have been added. The added claims are supported by the specification and original claims. For the Examiner's guidance, added claims 71-134 essentially correspond to original claims 13-70, while added claims 135-146 essentially correspond to original claims 1-12.

Applicants respectfully do not understand the instant requirement for election of species, which appears directed to the summary of the invention, rather than the claimed invention, and therefore request clarification of the requirement. In any event, applicants respectfully submit that the requirement is moot in light of the new claims submitted above, which were found to possess unity of invention during the international examination process. To the extent that the Examiner seeks an indication from applicants regarding the preferred claims for examination, applicants seek initial examination on at least new claim 71 and the relevant dependent claims.

Applicants await an office action on the merits. Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Date: May 14, 2008
Patent Administrator
Proskauer Rose LLP
1001 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Suite 400
Washington, DC 20004
Telephone: 202.416.6800
Facsimile: 202.416.6899
CUSTOMER NO: 61263

Respectfully submitted,



Paul M. Booth
Attorney for Applicant
Reg. No.: 40,244

Customer No. 61263